

## Public Hearing Testimony: SB 147

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Dear Members of the Higher Education Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly,

My name is Keisha Davila from Danbury. I am a student at Danbury High School. I stand in support of SB 147: An Act Assisting Students Without Legal Immigration Status With The Cost Of College. This bill would equalize access to institutional financial aid at Connecticut public universities and colleges to all students regardless of immigration status.

I am Puertorican and I moved to Danbury with my family two years ago. I migrate from my beautiful island to Connecticut, but it was not easy for me, even if I am a US citizen. I fell strange in my own country.

I am attending DHS and my favorite classes are Acting, Baking and Algebra and also I am a very active member of the Latino Club in my High School.

I want to go to College, I want to study to be a Preschool Teacher. The education it is very important for me because only with knowledge can we reach our dreams and goals. And as a preschool teacher, I want to share that with my students with all my love, and so they can become very good American citizens.

When I came here it was difficult to make new friends, and remembering my aunt back in Puerto Rico still make me cry, because we love each other so much. For the past semester I have been part of the group Connecticut Students for a Dream, helping immigrants who are not as luck as me and who are undocumented. It has helped me to bring out my leadership and encourage others to do something special and be also a leader.

With the bill SB147 and institutional aid approved, I can see a very bright future for my undocumented and DACAmented friends that I do love them so much, they are amazing people, they are very talented and they just want work hard for Connecticut and United States.

I support SB 147 and hope the committee will vote favorably on SB 147.

Thank you for your time,

Keisha Davila. Danbury.